

(CONTINUED FROM FIFTH PAGE.)

students at the University to the residents of Fredericton and other guests, came off in the college building tonight with the usual eclat forming the celestial grand function of the year. The whole building was thrown open to the guests, and was a scene of light and gaiety. About five or six hundred attended in response to the thousand or more invitations sent out, and were received as they arrived by Prof. Davidson, and Mrs. Dr. Bailey, chaperones, and by Miss Sterling and Mr. Jack Fairweather, (of St. John) in behalf of the students. The main hall was used for dancing and was handsomely decorated with flags, bunting and evergreen. Over each of the four main doorways on each side of the spacious hall were the numbers of the four college classes draped with college zowns. The rooms in the residency end of the building were used for dressing rooms and the ladies' reading room on the second floor was turned into a supper room. The various class rooms were used for sitting out rooms and those who did not dance enjoyed a magic lantern exhibition in the library. Offen's string orchestra of eight pieces furnished the music for a programme of sixteen dances with three extras.

Miss McLauchlin is here visiting her sister Mrs. Lee Babbitt. (CRICKET.)

DORCHESTER.

[Progress is for sale in Dorchester by G. M. Fairweather.]

FEB. 16.—The progressive whist party given by Mrs. A. W. Chapman last week was a great success. There were about eight tables. The prizes a silver letter opener and silver paper knife, were won by Miss Tait.

Mrs. George Swayne gave a small whist party on Friday evening.

The Misses Backhouse gave a large progressive whist party on Monday evening to a number of their friends. Among the guests were Mrs. Landry, Mr. and Mrs. David Chapman, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Chapman, Mr. and Mrs. W. Hazen Chapman, Mrs. Chas. Godfrey, Mr. and Mrs. George Swayne, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Masters, Mr. and Mrs. H. J. McGrath, Mr. A. D. Richard, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Pater, Mrs. Outhouse, Mr. and Mrs. James Friel, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Teed, Mr. McGrath, Mr. and Mrs. N. W. Brown, Miss Gilbert, Miss McCarthy, Miss Tait, Dr. Teed, Messrs. L. E. Wilson, G. B. Fowler, and J. D. Brown. The lady's prize was won by Mrs. James Friel, the gentlemen's by Mr. E. E. Wilson. The Misses Backhouse are delightful hostesses and everyone enjoyed themselves to the utmost extent. The Misses Backhouse gave a high tea to a few friends on Thursday evening.

Mr. J. R. Campbell entertained a few young people on Monday evening at the rectory. The guests were Miss Grierson, Miss Burt, Miss Robinson, and Miss Constance Chandler, Mr. C. L. Hanington, Mr. George R. Pajzart and Mr. A. L. McLeod. A delightful evening was enjoyed by all present.

Mrs. D. L. Hanington and Miss Blanche V. Hanington went to Moncton on Monday to spend a few weeks with friends.

Miss Hanington of Moncton spent Sunday at Rocklyn with her sister Mrs. M. G. Teed returning to Moncton yesterday.

Miss Florence Palmer returned home on Monday evening, after a delightful month's visit in Dartmouth.

Mr. Justice Hanington returned from Fredericton on Thursday last.

Mr. Thomas Murray of Sackville paid Dorchester a flying visit last week.

Mr. R. W. Hewson of Moncton was in town on Saturday.

Mr. M. G. Teed went to St. John on Monday. (PERSONNE.)

RICHIBUCTO.

FEB. 16.—Mrs. Robert Phinney returned on Wednesday last from Chatham.

Miss Carrie of Chatham accompanied Mrs. Phinney and is here the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Phinney.

Mr. Allan Haines returned home on Monday from Blackville where he has spent the past five or six weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred S. Sayre celebrated the fifth anniversary of their wedding on Tuesday evening of last week, the only guests outside of the immediate relatives were Miss Hudson and Mr. A. Cowperthwaite, a most enjoyable time was spent.

Miss Ella Ferguson left on Monday to visit friends in Moncton and Newcastle.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. D. Carter entertained a few friends at a pleasant whist party last evening.

Mrs. R. E. Forbes also gave an enjoyable party on Tuesday evening in honor of Mr. Frank Sayre, who leaves on Thursday morning for the West after spending the past three months at his home.

Miss Fannie Sayre goes to Sackville on Thursday to visit friends and will accompany her brother as far as Moncton.

Rev. Wm. Lawson was in St. John last week. (AURORA.)

WOODSTOCK.

[Progress is for sale in Woodstock by Mrs. L. Lorne & Co.]

FEB. 16.—Mrs. A. E. Eull is spending some weeks in Fredericton the guest of her daughter Mrs. George Clarke.

Mr. George Black of Fredericton spent Sunday in Woodstock.

Mr. W. D. Howard and Mr. George Howard of St. John spent Sunday in Woodstock.

The Utopia Dramatic club gave a very successful presentation of the drama, "Our Boys" in Honiton on Friday evening last. The play was well received by a large audience.

Mrs. W. T. Drysdale gave a very pleasant party on Friday evening last, for the entertainment of her son Harry.

Mrs. M. Brewer entertained a large party of young folks the same evening, the friends of her daughter Ethel.

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Mr. J. N. W. Winslow and Mr. J. T. Garden returned Saturday from a short trip to Montreal.

Mr. C. B. Foster, travelling passenger agent of the C. P. R., spent a few days in Woodstock and vicinity this week.

Messrs J. T. Allan Dibble, M. P. P. and C. L. Smith M. P. P. returned to Fredericton on Monday.

Messrs R. Brown, S. Peabody, C. L. S. Raymond C. Connell, I. E. Slipp, A. Stephenson and F. Tilley went to Fredericton Monday to attend the Convention there.

Archdeacon Neales, Rev. W. B. Bellis, Rev. A. W. Teed, Mrs. W. B. Bellis, Miss B. Neales and Miss Augheron attended the Church of England Deanery and Sunday School meeting at Florenceville on Tuesday.

Invitations are issued for a Bachelor's Ball to be held in the Opera House on Monday the 21st.

Miss L. Smith returned from Newport R. I. last week and will spend some weeks at her home here.

Mrs. J. S. Creighton spent last week in Woodstock. (ELAINE.)

PETITCODIAO.

FEB. 16.—Mrs. H. H. Magee returned to St. John yesterday. She was accompanied by her mother, Mrs. D. L. Frites, who will remain in the city for a few days.

Mr. T. B. Backer of St. John was in town for a day or two last week.

Mrs. Hal Huestis entertained a few of her friends at a very pleasant whist party last evening.

Mr. W. B. Ryan left for New York the first of last week. He will be gone several weeks.

Miss Julia Keith left this morning for Sackville where she will be the guest of her aunt Mrs. Chas. Fickard.

Mrs. Lawson and Master Fred are visiting friends in Sussex.

Mr. W. H. Henderson of Sussex spent Sunday at the island.

Judge Trueman of Albert was in town last week. Master Robert Frites was in Moncton on Saturday. (DICK.)

TRURO.

[Additional correspondence]

FEB. 18.—We have had two nights of lovely opera this week. The Jaxon Company in "Mikado" and "Bohemian Girl." Mr. Gunnis is to be congratulated on the result of his venture, as was plainly evidenced by the full houses both nights, of appreciative and fashionable audiences. (FLO.)

"Bear Ye One Another's Burdens."

If any little word of ours Can make one life the brighter, If any little song of ours Can make one heart the lighter, God help us speak that little word, And take our bit of singing, And drop it in some lonely vale, To set the echoes ringing.

If any little love of ours Can make one life the sweeter, If any little care of ours Can make one step the fleetier, If any little help may ease The burden of another, God give us love and care and strength To help along each other.

If any watchful thought of ours Can make some work the stronger, If any cheery smile of ours Can make its brightness longer, Then let us speak that thought to-day With tender eyes aglowing, So God may grant some weary one Shall reap from our glad sowing.

Kentucky's Freakish Well.

'Oae of the most remarkable natural wonders I ever saw,' said a gentleman from the Purchase, 'is an unused well on the Tennessee River, down in our country. Nobody knows who dug the well or why it was ever dug, as it is not near any farmhouse or village. But the unusual thing about it is its freakishness. For instance last summer, during drought, when water was a premium, I went to the well, while fishing in the neighbourhood, and found it over half full of cold limestone aqua pura I ever drank. But every fall and winter the well goes dry, and there is, seemingly, no stream from which the well can draw its supply of water. An old man who lives near by told me that last summer was the only time he had ever known limestone water to rise in the well.

'Why,' said the old river man, in speaking of the mysterious well, 'I have drawn the very best of iron mineral water out of it at one time, and white sulphur at another. The negroes say the well is haunted because steam rises from it in the winter time when there is not a drop of water in it. The blacks shun it as they would the boss denizen of the infernal regions, swearing the water is poisoned and that a draught from it means death to him who swallows the potion. And it is as queer and freakish a spot as ever I saw.'

TO GET MEN IN CHURCH.

A CERTAIN CLERGYMAN FINDS THEM ABSENT.

And Notes the Fact in a Public Way—a Plan That Would Surely Increase Their Interest and Attendance and The Collection Very Materially.

I happened to be present a few Sundays ago, when the rector of a certain church made a very earnest appeal to his congregation to attend the services held in the church on Friday evenings. He appeared as he well might be both discouraged and deeply wounded at the spathy shown by his people in this respect and while he addressed his remonstrance to the entire congregation, he appealed especially to the men of the church who, it seems were conspicuous only by their absence on the occasion of week day services "I grieve to say it my friends" he added, more in sorrow than in anger "that last Friday evening I had not a man in the church to take up my collection! Think of it! there were thirty women present, and not one man to take the collection!" The congregation was stirred to its very centre with interest and pleasant excitement; we were aroused to the highest pitch of curiosity, and with open mouth and bated breath awaited the startling denouement of who finally filled the gap under the trying circumstances—when the clergyman brought his remarks to an abrupt and most unsatisfactory conclusion just as the serial in a magazine breaks off with "to be continued" at the most interesting point of the narrative. "The moral is obvious," concluded his reverence "we will now sing the hundred and thirty fourth hymn," and with a suppressed sigh of impatience the congregation found the place, and sulkily began to sing.

I confess that the unfinished anecdote has haunted me ever since and I would very much like to know who did take up the collection on that memorable occasion. I have also yearned for an opportunity of suggesting to that excellent divine a way out of such difficulties in future; and such a very attractive way it is, that I expect he will be obliged to still further enlarge his church, if he will only adopt it. I doubt if I should have the courage to approach him personally on the subject so I shall take this opportunity of unfolding the scheme which, while making a church utterly independent of the attendance of the male sex, yet, has the enormous advantage of drawing them within its portals—literally indoors.

It is simple, as it is efficacious and merely consists of the substitution of what are called angel ushers, for the ordinary variety, to which we are all accustomed. The experiment was first tried in a church in the United States, early last month, and it was an unqualified success. Of course it was in the Western States the home of enterprise, and perhaps that may have been the reason it "caught on" so rapidly, but surely under existing circumstances it is worth trying in Canada.

Six of the most charming young sisters in the congregation were chosen, and it is said that they not only performed their duties conscientiously, but in a manner well calculated to win the admiration of all beholders. Naturally the officers of the church had taken care to give due notice of the proposed innovation, and the congregation in consequence, showed a predominance of the male sex unheard of in its previous history. There was at least two men to one woman, and the way those angel ushers showed bashful and hesitating men who had always been able to find seats for themselves before, to their places, was a beautiful object lesson in practical christianity. We do not hear so much about their manners of escorting members of their own sex to seats, but taken as a whole their performance was most satisfactory, and when it came to taking up the collection, satisfactory is too poor a word to express it! What man on the right side of seventy could have the face to drop a small coin in the collection plate when a pair of bright eyes followed his every movement, and rosybud lips smiled approval of a generous contribution, and curved scornfully if he tried to slip in anything less than a quarter? I believe the collection that evening exceeded missionary Sunday and almost came up to the special offering for a church debt. At any rate it has become a permanent institution in that church, and since its success is assured, the experiment is surely worth trying in a congregation where the genus homo is so scarce an article that the bul-

From SCHOOL-BOY of tender years to hardy KLONDIKE MINER, OXFORD CLOTH (Made only at Oxford.) Is best for Clothing.

wark of all religious bodies, the one ceremonial observance upon which all are unanimous—the collection—has to be dispensed with altogether owing to its absence.

FEMALE POLICE.

They Guard the Private Apartments of Siam's King.

The king of Siam's private life is passed in utter seclusion within the Khang Nai, or Inside, as the harem is known among the Siamese. This Inner Palace is forbidden ground to any man European or native, except under very special circumstances, and then only when accompanied by a guard of trusted servants. It is safe to assert that no man has ever been personally acquainted, even in a remote degree, with the life or history of the inmates.

The king is the only representative of his sex who lives in this community of women—one amidst thousands! There is a force of female police for preserving order and punishing any unruly members. Flogging with a rattan is resorted to for certain offenses, and only those wives who are of royal birth enjoy immunity from such treatment. A few favored European ladies have been admitted to parts of this Inner Palace, and on the authority of one of them I can state that the 'first queen' understands a little English. This is less surprising from the fact that the king had for some years an English tutor for the princes—four of whom was now being privately educated in England and one at Harrow.

It is doubtful if any European could fully explain the position of the ladies of the harem. Even if the Siamese themselves know, they do not impart the information; in fact, among them it is contrary to etiquette to make any allusion to the subject. One of the wives is known as the 'first queen,' and takes official precedence of all the others. Another is often referred to as the second, and sometimes a third is mentioned. These are all near relatives of the king, and with the other wives of royal blood, take precedence of those who may be regarded as commoners.

There is no limit to the number of women that the king may take to wife and although they may be dismissed at will, to have been admitted as a member of the Khang Nai, far from being in any way derogatory is regarded as an honor.

The king's sisters do not marry for fear of creating rivalry for the throne; neither do his daughters, who remain all their lives in the harem; but perchance some future king may offer them a position similar to that held by their mothers. So jealously are these ladies guarded from contact with the world, that in 1879 an elder sister of the first queen was allowed to drown in the presence of a number of spectators, not one of whom was permitted to put a hand on her, even to save her from certain death.

The country palace of the king of Siam is called Bang-pa-in. About forty miles north of Bangkok, on the Meinam, are two islands, separated by a narrow channel not 150 feet wide. On the smaller of these is a Buddhist temple and college, and on the other the country residence of the king of Siam, which consists of three buildings—the official, the private and the Chinese palaces. Each is separated from the other by canals, with which the island is intersected, and which, in places, are enlarged into small artificial lakes. Sluice gates are provided between the canal and river, which serve to maintain the level of the water in the former, and also for flashing; for, although some seventy-two miles from the sea, the tide rises and falls between three and four feet. Through these pass the boats containing the ladies of the household, who, to escape public notice, are landed a few feet from their apartments.

The Ko-pa, or landing stage, is a wooden gangway, hinged at both ends, and resting on a pontoon anchored in water deep enough to allow large launches to moor alongside. At the top of the bank is a band stand, close against a portico of classical design, which forms the entrance to the official palace, and looks down a narrow strip of walks and lawn, shaded by mango and tamarind trees. On the occasion of a grand fete, this was the site of an enormous device that was used for an electric light illumination.

DOWN THE CHILKOOT PASS.

Tuck Up Your Clothes, Sit Down on the Snow and Slide.

In a letter from E. C. Patterson, dated at Canyon City, Alaska, Jan. 21, 1898, he says:

'This is a great country, and I am glad I came, but the living is more than tough. I was under the impression that I knew something of camp life, but this is an entirely new experience. I am located at what it is charity to call Canyon City—a camp where the Dyea-Klondike Transportation Company boards the men who are working on its railway. This is the first day since my arrival, 10th, instant, that I have seen the sun. It is not extremely

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cold (the mercury ranges from zero to 30 above) but it is nearly always cloudy, and the wind blows hard most of the time.

'A few days ago I went to the summit of Chilkoot Pass. From this place (six miles north of Dyea) it is seven miles to what is called the foot of the summit, and it seems like forty when you walk it; but after so much has been accomplished, one's troubles have just begun. The ascent is say, 500 feet, and almost straight up. It would be impossible to make the climb but for the snow, which is, on an average, forty feet deep; this provides a footing, and it required more than an hour for me to make the first summit, where a level stretch of about 100 yards intervened before the second climb, much steeper was made, which landed me on the real summit of Chilkoot Pass.

'When ready to leave, and it was not long, the Indian guide said, 'do as I do,' and proceeded to tuck his clothes under him, seated himself in the snow on the edge of the slope, and away he went down the side of the mountain. I followed. The experience was exciting, and after crossing the level plateau, took another slide, reaching the bottom in less than a minute, while it had required more than an hour to mount. In watching a man descend it looks for all the world like a cloud of snow shooting down the mountain, and the victim lands at your feet; such is the Chilkoot Pass. Two men were frozen to death on the summit last week.

An Ignorant Teacher.

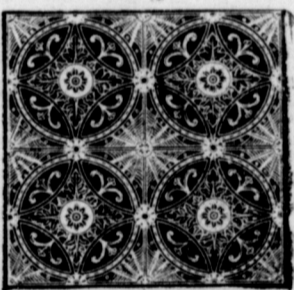
Willie—Say, pa; didn't you tell me the other day that it was wrong to strike anyone smaller than yourself?

Pa—Yes, Willie; that's what I said. Willie—Well, I wish you'd write my teacher a note to that effect. I don't think she knows about it.

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